



USAID | MACEDONIA
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PRESS RELEASE

Macedonia embraces e-Gov

U.S.-supported technology and assistance aim to save time and increase transparency and cost-effectiveness

May 16, Skopje: Macedonia's progress in using information technology (IT) to improve efficiency and transparency in government was emphasized today in a new exhibition of IT solutions. The exhibit, entitled "e-Gov for a Modern Macedonia," was organized by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in partnership with Hewlett-Packard and Microsoft. USAID is part of the U.S. Mission to Macedonia. The exhibition was held in the historic Daut Pasha Hamam, a structure that dates back to the 15th century and now houses the National Gallery

Prime Minister Vlado Buckovski and U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Paul D. Wohlers officially opened the event.

"Through e-Government, public administration can become more open and transparent, and reinforce democratic participation. Assisted by technology, public administration also has the potential to become more service-oriented, providing personalized and comprehensive services to every citizen, and delivering maximum value to the taxpayers," said Mr. Wohlers.

USAID, through the e-Gov Project, has been assisting public institutions in the Republic of Macedonia to increase their efficiency and transparency, and to open new channels for doing business. On display at the exhibition were some of the solutions developed as part of the consolidated package of assistance, including the Apply On-Line system for state jobs; the e-Procurement system; e-Tax Services; the e-Health system, and e-Budgeting.

The corporate partners in the event, Hewlett-Packard and Microsoft, displayed e-Gov solutions developed for Macedonia and other countries. Also on display were digital certificates, which, with assistance provided by the USAID-funded e-Gov project, can now be issued in Macedonia.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested more than \$450 million in Macedonia since 1993. More than 20 projects worth \$30 million a year are currently being implemented. These projects are designed to support Macedonia's transition to a free market-based, multi-ethnic democracy. They include initiatives to accelerate economic growth, develop democratic institutions, and educate citizens for a modern economy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>

